



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eight More Roxbury Officers Fired As Excessive Force Probe Continues

TOWSON, MD (April 8, 2008)---Eight more correctional officers from Roxbury Correctional Institution near Hagerstown were fired today, amid allegations of excessive force there during the weekend of March 8. The Department fired nine other officers on April 4.

Maryland State Police and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) Internal Investigative Unit continue a criminal probe of the case, with State Police leading that investigation.

"We cannot tolerate excessive force, just as we will not tolerate an officer being harmed," said DPSCS Secretary Gary Maynard. "When it is found that policy is violated which calls for termination of an employee, we have an obligation to take action. These administrative actions are necessary in light of the information developed from the investigations conducted by our Internal Investigative Unit and the Maryland State Police."

In the meantime, the Department and Maryland State Police continue their administrative and criminal probes, respectively, at North Branch Correctional Institution near Cumberland. Officers there have been under investigation for a separate excessive force allegation.

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